



SAFETY! ALERT!



30 July 2025

Cut to Finger using a Rattle Gun

WHAT HAPPENED?

Whilst working on the replacement of insulator attachment points, the bottom and top nuts of the double nut arrangement, became wedged in the socket whilst using a rattle gun. This caused the rattle gun to twist, resulting in a cut to a finger. A week of restricted work was prescribed to the worker by the medical provider. The employee returned to work the following day.

IMMEDIATE ACTION TAKEN

The worker was taken to the medical clinic for cleaning and precautionary measures (wound clean and x-ray).

ROOT CAUSE

- Awkward work position to complete the task.
- The hazard of being struck in the hand by a rattle gun was absent from the risk assessment.



Figure 1 – Typical rattle gun.



Figure 2 – Insulator attachment points

LEARNINGS

- Ensure correct body positioning to avoid being struck.
- Hold tool firmly and with two hands if possible.
- When one person’s capability is exceeded, ensure assistance is acquired.
- Identify all the risks related to the work activities and implement the appropriate controls.
- Ensure all rattle gun users are aware of all the precautionary measures.

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